

# MINERAL INFORMATION SERVICE

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## Mining Claims under Public Law 167

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Changes in the basic mining law became effective on July 23, 1955, when President Eisenhower signed a bill amending the mining law and the Materials Disposal Act. Known as Public Law 167, 84th Congress, 1st Session, the bill excludes certain nonmetallic materials from mineral location and affects the surface rights of claims filed in the future. It does not apply to valid claims existing prior to the time the act became law.

In brief, this law makes the following provisions: (1) Bans the location of mining claims for common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and cinders, and makes them subject to disposal under the Materials Disposal Act. It will not affect the validity of any mining location based upon discovery of some other mineral occurring in or in association with such deposits. Also, deposits of the above materials which are valuable because of certain properties giving them distinct and special value would continue to be locatable. (2) Prohibits the use of mining claims hereafter located and prior to patent, for any purpose other than prospecting, mining, processing, and related activities. (3) Authorizes the federal government, on claims hereafter located and prior to patent, to manage and dispose of timber and forage, and bars the claimant from removing or using the timber or other surface resources except as needed for mining activity. (4) Provides a procedure under which the federal government can resolve title un-

certainities resulting from the existence of abandoned invalid, dormant, or unidentifiable mining claims located prior to the enactment of this measure.

As required by Section 5 of Public Law 167, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service have for more than a year been examining unpatented mining claims located prior to July 23, 1955 on public domain. These examinations for surface right determinations are being carried out within definite areas in the National Forest and other public domain lands. The areas are then advertised 9 consecutive weeks as required by the law. During a 150-day period commencing with the first date of such advertising, holders of unpatented mining claims located prior to July 23, 1955 may file a verified statement which shall set forth as to such unpatented mining claim:

- (1) the date of location;
- (2) the book and page of recordation of the notice or certificate of location;
- (3) the section or sections of the public land surveys which embrace such mining claims; or if such lands are unsurveyed, either the section or sections which would probably embrace such mining claim when the public land surveys are extended to such lands or a tie by courses and distances to an approved United States mineral monument;
- (4) whether such claimant is a locator or purchaser under such location; and

### *Areas now being considered by the Bureau of Land Management.*

National Forest	Area	No. of acres	No. claims affected	150-day period ends	County
Plumas	Camel Peak	133,000	1,550	6/20/60	Plumas
Plumas	Butt Valley	57,000	620	6/20/60	Plumas
Plumas	Mt. Willmore	25,000	700	6/20/60	Sierra
Rogue River	Elliot B.	23,000		5/2/60	Siskiyou
Sequoia	Little Kern	83,000	600	4/25/60	Tulare
Shasta-Trinity	Bonanza A	62,500	200	7/1/60	Trinity
Shasta-Trinity	Bonanza B	26,000	100	6/1/60	Shasta
Not in National Forests	Miscellaneous *	4,000		4/15/60	Calaveras
	Miscellaneous **	5,000		5/12/60	Amador

\* T. 5 N., R. 12 E., T. 4 N., R. 13 E., T. 4 and 5 N., R. 14 E., M.D.M.

\*\* T. 7 N., R. 13 E., M.D.M.